EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37

CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than

the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Paul S. Hunter on January 14, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

<u>Claim 16</u>:

Change the word "the link cost." in line 15 to "the link cost;" and insert

"selecting the plurality of routing factors from a set of routing factors;

for each selected routing factor, selecting one or more allowable values;

assigning a weight to each selected routing factor; and

for each selected routing factor, assigning each selected allowable value a cost."

to read:

16. A method for determining a route through a network, the method comprising:

identifying a plurality of routes, wherein each route comprises a plurality of links;

calculating a route cost for each route by summing a link cost calculated for each link of

the plurality of links; and

selecting a route based on the calculated route costs; wherein the link cost for each link is

calculated by determining a weighting value for a routing factor of a plurality of routing factors;

determining a cost value by matching an allowable value of the routing factor to a characteristic of the link;

determining a weighted cost value by combining the determined weighting value with the determined cost value;

repeating the determining operations for each of the plurality of routing factors; and

summing the determined weighted cost value for each of the plurality of routing factors to determine the link cost;

selecting the plurality of routing factors from a set of routing factors;

for each selected routing factor, selecting one or more allowable values;

assigning a weight to each selected routing factor; and

for each selected routing factor, assigning each selected allowable value a cost.

Claim 6: Cancelled

Claim 7: Change "The method of claim 6" in line 1 to "The method of claim 16".

Claim 8: Change "The method of claim 6" in line 1 to "The method of claim 16".

Claim 9: Change "The method of claim 6" in line 1 to "The method of claim 16".

2.   The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner:

Change the word "Ch ose" to "Choose" in step 102. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above drawing changes.

3.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Van Kim T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3073. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KEVIN BATES/   Van Kim T. Nguyen
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456   Examiner
                                                      Art Unit 2456

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